

District Kathua Rollball championship 2025 held



Medal winners posing for a photograph with chief guest.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

KATHUA: The District Kathua Rollball Championship 2025 was conducted at Delhi Public School (DPS) Raj Bagh, Kathua. Organized by the District Kathua Rollball Association, the event witnessed an enthusiastic participation of around 100 young athletes from across the district.

The championship, which was initially scheduled for May 8th and 9th, was postponed due to Operation Sindoor and rescheduled to the current date.

The tournament was conducted under the close supervision of seasoned senior national player Manvijay Singh Salathia, who was assisted by Vishali Bagal, Suvridha Sareen, Prabhial Singh, and Antriksh Mahajan.

Adding to the prestige of the event, Kanta Andotra, former Member of the Legislative Assembly (Ex-MLA), graced the occasion as the chief guest and distributed prizes to the winning teams. Her presence was a source of great encouragement for the young

sportspersons.

In under-17, gold was won by DPS Kathua by defeating Kathua Stadium. In Sub-Junior section, gold was won by Rolling Smasher Club by defeating Silver club. Third prize was won by Alfa Club. In mini section, gold was won by Kathua Green by defeating Kathua Red and third place was won by Kathua Blue.

The tournament was monitored by Joginder Singh, who was deputed as an official observer by the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council to ensure fair play and adherence to rules.

The District Kathua Rollball Championship not only highlighted the growing popularity of rollball in the region but also served as a platform for budding athletes to showcase their talent and sportsmanship.

The organizing committee extended its gratitude to all participating teams, coaches, volunteers, and supporting staff for making the event a resounding success.

SKK Divyang shines in 11th Class Examination



■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: The Divyang students of the School for Hearing Handicapped have once again excelled in the 11th class examination of Board of School Examination (BOSE), declared last evening. The School is being run by a noted NGO, J&K Samaj Kayan Kendra (SKK).

With a cent percent result in 11th class examination, five deaf & dumb students got distinction with Damini topping the school with 82. 2% marks. Recently, she was awarded the Anita Raina Memorial

Scholarship as she comes from a poor family. The other four distinction holders were Smriti Sharma, Vaibhav Sharma, Koustab Singh, and Akash Singh. The other two divyang got first division.

In the 12th class examination, two divyang students have bagged distinctions this year.

The President K B Jandial and the entire Samaj Kalyan fraternity have lauded the brilliant result of the divyang students in 11th class examination of BOSE and complimented the students, their parents and teaching faculty.

Jandial said that from this year, the SKK management will be awarding teachers in whose subjects the students have got distinction.

Meanwhile, the senior Advisor to SKK, Prem Gupta announced his personal cash award of Rs 1000 for all the bright divyang students who have brought laurels to the school.

Kavinder leads Tiranga Rally in Trikuta Nagar to honour security forces' valour in Op Sindoor

Listens to PM Modi's Mann Ki Baat broadcast



Senior BJP leader Kavinder Gupta leading Tiranga rally.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Senior BJP leader and former Deputy Chief Minister Kavinder Gupta today led a spirited Tiranga Rally in the Trikuta Nagar area to pay tribute to the indomitable courage and commitment of India's security forces for the successful execution of Operation Sindoor deep inside Pakistan. Speaking at the event, Kavinder Gupta said, "Our brave soldiers have once again proven that the sovereignty and security of our nation remain non-negotiable. Operation Sindoor has not only showcased the operational excellence of our forces but also sent a strong message that India will act decisively when provoked. This rally is our way of saluting their unparalleled courage and selfless service."

He further stated that the entire country stands united with its armed forces, and the patriotic fervour witnessed today at the rally reflects the people's deep-rooted love and respect for national security and unity. Among those who

participated in the Tiranga Rally included Surinder Mohan, Ajay Gupta, Rekha Mahajan, Lucky Puri, Rohit Mahajan, Nayan Gupta, Prerna Nanda, Indu Puri, Monika Khosha, Neena Gupta, Divya Jain, Kapil Khurana, Bharat Sharma, Vishal Mahajan, and BD Gupta.

Later, Kavinder Gupta, along with party workers and prominent citizens from the Gandhii Nagar constituency, gathered to listen to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Mann Ki Baat broadcast. Speaking on the occasion, he emphasized the significance of PM Modi's clarion call for 'Vocal for Local' and

promoting Made in India products. He urged people to take inspiration from the Prime Minister's words and actively contribute to nation-building through economic self-reliance. "The road to a stronger India begins with empowering our local artisans, entrepreneurs, and manufacturers. When we choose Indian-made products, we strengthen our economy, create jobs, and boost national pride," he said. The former deputy Chief Minister encouraged the youth and business community of Jammu to embrace indigenous innovations and become ambassadors of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Samooth Theatre organizes Natya Path of Hindi Play "Dhwand" by Rajinder Narang



Rajinder Kumar Narang reading Natya Path of Hindi Play "Dhwand" .

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Samooth Theatre organized a Natya Path (dramatic reading) of the Hindi play "Dhwand", penned and narrated by Rajinder Kumar Narang, a renowned theatre, television, and radio artist from Jammu and Kashmir.

The play delves into the socio-political landscape of

contemporary times, portraying characters entangled in ongoing conflicts within family structures, societal frameworks, and daily life struggles. Through its narrative, Dhwand highlights the inner turmoil and moral dilemmas faced by individuals. Despite the characters' efforts, the situation remains unchanged in the

end, as none of them chooses to compromise or adapt, leaving the challenges unresolved. The event was graced by several prominent writers, poets, playwrights, and theatre practitioners, including Dr. Sudhir Mahajan, Dr. Baljeet Raina, Dr. Kamal Sharma, Jang S. Varman, Rajnesh Gupta, Shashi Bushan, Prof. Ashok Gupta, Sheikh Mohd. Kalyan, Sardar J.P. Singh, and Dr. Pawan Khajuria. Their presence and insights added depth to the discussion around the themes and relevance of the play in today's societal context.

The Natya Path served as an engaging platform for literary and cultural exchange, reflecting the continuing commitment of Samooth Theatre to promote meaningful theatre that addresses real societal concerns.

Shri Shani Dev Jayanti on May 27: Mahant Rohit Shastri

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: Shri Shani Dev Jayanti will be observed this year on Tuesday, May 27, aligning with the auspicious Jyeshtha Amavasya Tithi, which begins at 12:12 PM on Monday, May 26 and ends at 8:32 AM on Tuesday, May 27. Since the Amavasya tithi coincides with sunrise on May 27, it marks the most appropriate time to celebrate the birth of Shri Shani Dev, as per Hindu scriptures. According to Mahant Rohit Shastri, Jyotishacharya and President of the Shri Kailash Jyotish Avim Vedic Sansthan Trust, Shani Dev is a powerful and influential deity among the Navagrahas (nine celestial bodies).

Shani Dev, son of Lord Surya (Sun God) and Mata Chhaya, is revered as the deity of justice, discipline, and karmic balance. He is believed to be the judge of Kaliyuga, governing karma,



profession, employment, and service. His presence in one's horoscope can bring about significant transformations, both challenging and rewarding, based on a person's actions.

This year, individuals with the zodiac signs of Aquarius (final phase), Pisces (second phase), and Aries (first phase) are under the impact of Shani Sade Sati, while Leo and Sagittarius are experiencing Shani Dhaiyya. Those going through Shani Mahadasha or Antardasha in their horoscope are advised to take special spiri-

tual precautions. Observing rituals on this day is considered beneficial in reducing the malefic effects of Shani Dosh, Sade Sati, and Dhaiyya. To please Shani Dev and seek relief, devotees are encouraged to perform specific remedies. These include serving black cows, donating black clothes, blankets, and seven grains (saptadhanya), and observing fasts on Saturdays. Devotees should also visit Shani temples and light a jasmine oil lamp for Lord Hanuman, accompanied by the recitation of Hanuman Chalisa, as Lord Hanuman is believed to protect from Shani's adverse effects. Another important ritual includes filling a bronze bowl with sesame oil, viewing one's reflection in it, and then donating the oil along with black urad dal, 1.25 kg grains, laddoos, fruits, charcoal, and iron nails wrapped in black cloth

to a Dakot (traditional Shani donor). Performing an abhishek (ritual bath) of Shani Dev's idol using mustard oil and black sesame seeds is also highly auspicious. Additional remedies include wearing a ring made of black horse shoe on the middle finger, tying an energized root of the Shami tree with a black thread around the neck or arm, and worshipping the Peepal tree before sunrise by offering oil with an iron nail.

It is also recommended to pour oil on Shani Dev's idol for 43 days, excluding Sundays, and to feed black chickpeas and jaggery to monkeys and dogs on Saturdays. Wearing black leather shoes and black clothes on this day is believed to further appease Shani Dev.

Devotees can also chant miraculous mantras of Shani Dev for divine protection and

relief from hardships. Some powerful mantras include: Om Shanno Dev?r Abhihi?aya ?po Bhavantu P?taye Shanyo? Abhi Stravantu Na?. Om Pr?m Pr?m Praum Sa? Shanaishchar?ya Nama?. Ko?astha Pi?galo Babhru? K???o Raudr?ntako Yama?, Sauri? Shanaishcharo Manda? Pippal?dena Sanstuta?. Tantric Mantra: Om Pr?m Pr?m Praum Sa? Shanaishchar?ya Nama?. These mantras should ideally be chanted 23,000 times, either by the devotee or through a qualified Brahmin, to gain maximum benefit and overcome life's challenges with Shani Dev's blessings.

Shani Jayanti serves as a powerful opportunity to honor the cosmic force of karma and seek balance, discipline, and protection through sincere worship and dedicated rituals.

Relief Operations by Gandhi Global Family reaches Rajouri & Poonch

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

POONCH: Gandhi Global Family (GGF), in alignment with United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 17 (Partnerships for the Goals), organized a coordinated humanitarian effort to support families affected by cross-border shelling along the LoC in Rajouri and Poonch districts. To address the urgent needs of the impacted communities, GGF organized a collaborative network of regional and sub-regional NGOs, civil society organizations and volunteers.

Key partners included the J&K Ex-Servicemen League, Unnat NGO, Tawi Welfare Organization, Sangarsh and Pulastya Foundation. This coalition exemplified United Nations SDG Goal No 17's emphasis on multi-stake-



holder partnerships, enabling a structured and efficient response to the crisis. The relief efforts were tailored to the specific needs of the affected population, guided by feedback collected during GGF's initial assessment visits.

Essential supplies such as grocery kits, juices, biscuits and mosquito nets

were distributed to address immediate survival requirements. Recognizing the unique challenges faced by women and children, the initiative also provided sanitary pads, indoor sports kits and educational materials. This approach not only prioritized physical necessities but also aimed to support psychosocial well-

being, particularly for children traumatized by the conflict. Formal handover ceremonies were conducted in both districts to ensure transparency and accountability. In Rajouri, District Youth Officer Nitin Hangloo received the relief material through GGF President Rajouri Bashir Ahmed Shawl and senior member Saleem.

In Poonch, the supplies were delivered to Assistant Commissioner Revenue M. Sayeed, Child Welfare Committee Chairperson Rohit Khajuria and Superintendent of Palaash Children Home Boys Nusrat Mir, with Dr. Nitin Sharma General Secretary GGF Jammu region and Adv. Waqar Hussain Shah leading the process.

The events in both districts were witnessed by prominent civil society

members, including ex-councillor Naresh Kumar Raj, Adv. Sanjeev Sharma, Adv. Bhanu Partap, Adv. Navjot Sharma, Dr. Syed Nusrat Shah, Dr. Mehak Sharma, Vikrant Sharma and Shakti Sharma.

Earlier, the second relief consignment was dispatched under the supervision of Dr. S. P. Varma, President GGF J&K.

The initiative also highlighted women-led contributions, such as those by GGF Women representatives especially from Anuradha Lal President GGF Women Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Dr. Alka Sharma President GGF Jammu Women Wing, Neena Abrol from Unnat NGO and Anuradha from Cambridge Montessori, Pounichak emphasizing gender inclusivity in humanitarian efforts.

MLA Surinder for collective efforts in eradicating menace of drug abuse from society



MLA Marh, Surinder Kumar and others taking pledge.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

JAMMU: A significant step towards a drug-free society was taken today at Government High School, Phalian, with the organization of a Nasha Mukti awareness program under the "Nasha Mukti Jammu-Kashmir Abhiyan". The program was graced by MLA Marh, Surinder Kumar, as the Chief Guest. Prominent dignitaries present on the occasion include Principal, Surekha Raina, Vice Principal, Rajinder Sharma, Block

President, Amarjeet Kaur, former Sarpanches, Officials from various departments.

Surinder Kumar emphasized the importance of collective efforts in eradicating the menace of drug abuse from society. He urged everyone to join hands in this mission to create a Nasha Mukti Jammu-Kashmir. The MLA highlighted the crucial role of education and awareness in preventing drug abuse and promoting a healthy lifestyle among the youth. Surinder Kumar lauded the initiative taken by the

organizers and encouraged everyone to support this noble cause.

MLA underscored let us all come together to make this mission a success and take steps towards creating a drug-free society. The "Nasha Mukti Jammu-Kashmir Abhiyan" is a commendable initiative, and we must all support it to ensure a brighter future for our youth. As a nation, we are at a critical juncture where the youth's potential can shape our future. It's essential for young people to prioritize their careers and steer clear of substance abuse.

MLA asked youths to stay away from drugs and focus on education and career goals to achieve success and stability as substance abuse can have severe consequences on overall well-being and inspire others with your achievements and contribute to a healthier society.

Let's work together and encourage open conversations and provide resources for those struggling with substance abuse, guide and mentor young individuals to help them make informed choices and organize events and initiatives that promote a healthy lifestyle and career development. Let's work together to create a supportive environment that fosters growth, success, and well-being for our youth.

By staying focused on their careers and avoiding substance abuse, young people can unlock their full potential and create a brighter future for themselves and our nation, added MLA.

Ashok Koul chairs BJP cadre meeting, calls for strengthening booth-level structure

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

BANI: Ashok Koul, General Secretary (Organization), Jammu and Kashmir BJP, chaired a meeting of party cadre at Bani.

The meeting saw participation from key district leaders, including District President Gopal Krishan, former MLA Jeevan Lal, District General Secretaries Thakur Das and Ravinder, along with other senior functionaries and grassroots workers from the Bani region.

In his address, Ashok Koul laid strong emphasis on the importance of a well-structured and dynamic booth-level organization. He reiterated that the booth is the basic unit of political mobilization, and it is at this level that the party must establish its deepest connect with the people. He urged the cadre



General Secretary (Org) J&K BJP, Ashok Koul chairing a meeting at Bani.

to work with unity, dedication, and discipline to ensure that the party's message and welfare initiatives reach every household in the region. Koul highlighted the growing trust and faith of the people in the BJP, attributing it to the effective governance and people-centric policies of the Narendra Modi-led Union Government. "It is the commitment of the BJP towards public welfare and national interest that con-

tinues to earn us the trust of the citizens," he said. Referring to the recent success of Operation Sindoor by the Indian Armed Forces, he noted how India's global and national stature has risen under the BJP's nationalist stance.

Comparing party workers to the soldiers of the nation, Koul stated, "Just as our brave soldiers safeguard the borders without seeking personal gain, BJP karyakartas must serve

society with the same selfless spirit."

He also stressed the need for effective communication of BJP's developmental agenda at the grassroots and called upon workers to remain accessible to the public and to work towards resolving local issues.

Gopal Krishan assured the senior leadership that the party cadre in Bani is fully committed to the party's organizational goals and is actively engaged in outreach activities aimed at expanding the party's footprint.

Jeevan Lal also reiterated his full support for the party's vision and shared that sincere efforts are underway to implement leadership directives, strengthen booth-level teams, and foster a culture of accountability and service within the party ranks.

BJP leaders listen to Mann Ki Baat across Jammu & Kashmir



BJP leaders listening to PM's Mann Ki Baat.

■ STATE TIMES NEWS

J A M M U / K A S H M I R : Bharatiya Janata Party leadership, Jammu & Kashmir including the whole party cadre listened to the 'Mann Ki Baat', a monthly radio program of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, where he interacts with citizens of India on themes and issues that matters to the Nation. The leaders and party cadre listened to the 'Mann Ki Baat' jointly in groups at around two thousand Booths across Jammu & Kashmir.

J&K BJP President Sat

Sharma, Leader of Opposition in the J&K Legislative Assembly Sunil Sharma, BJP National Secretary Dr. Narinder Singh (MLA), J&K BJP General Secretary Dr. D.K. Manyal (MLA), Dr. Darakshan Andrabi, Mudassar Wani, Sajid Yusuf, Sahil Bashir, Er Aizaz, Salman, Bilal Parray, Manzoor Bhat and other senior leaders of the party listened to the PM's Mann Ki Baat programme at Booth no 55, Ram Munshi Bagh, Lal Chowk, Srinagar.

J&K BJP General Secretary

(organization) Ashok Koul listened to the Mann Ki Baat programme at Polling Booth No.14 (Selli) Panchayat Lowang in BJP Mandal Bani. He was accompanied by Former MLA Jeevan Lal, District President Gopal Krishan, District General Secretaries Thakur Das, and Ravinder and other leaders of BJP Bani. Sat Sharma, while speaking on the occasion, said that in this 122th episode of "Mann Ki Baat", Prime Minister Narendra Modi has shared the moment of India's pride by terming the Operation Sindoor as the epitome of India's resolve, courage, pride, and wisdom. He said that Mann Ki Baat has transformed into an inspirational platform, which has kept inspiring millions since its inception.